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Coalville Urban District.

 Report 

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,


Robert Wyatt Jamie,

M.A., M.B., C.M., D.P.H., Camb.

For the Year, 1925.


Coalville :

Holmes, "Fleet" Printing Works.



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Report of the Medical Officer of Health, For the Year 1925.

To the Coalville Urban District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have again the honour of submitting a Report respecting the health and sanitary condition of the Urban District, for the year 1925.

In accordance with a Circular from the Ministry of Health, dated the 10th December, 1925, relative to the contents and arrangement of the Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Health, this is a "Survey" Report, and deals with "the measure of progress made in the area, during the preceding five years, in the improvement of the public health."

In this Report, I follow, as far as possible, the order outlined in that Circular.

Natural and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (in acres) 6,229.

Population (1921) 20,468

Population estimated to middle of 1925, 22,070.

Number of inhabited houses (1921) 4,147.

Number of families or separate occupiers (1921) 4,560.

Rateable value £78,890.

Sum represented by a penny rate £250.

Vital Statistics.

Births	}	Legitimate	236	males,	230	females.
		Illegitimate	8	„	6	„
Totals			244		236	Total births 480.
Birth rate 21.7.						

Deaths 142 males, 124 females, total 266.

Death rate 12 per 1,000.

Deaths of infants under 1 year, males 29, females 22, total 51.

Of these 2 males were illegitimate and 3 females.

Rate per 1,000 births registered 106.

2.

The Coalville Urban District, formed in 1892, contains 6229 acres, inclusive of area covered by water. It is divided into three Wards, the Coalville or Central Ward, the Hugglescote or South Ward and the Whitwick or North Ward. These Wards are still fairly distinct, and correspond with the three original villages, from which the Urban District was formed. The Coalville Ward is the most densely populated, and has increased most rapidly in population, and is becoming more and more the centre of the district. The total population of the whole district—estimated to the middle of 1925—is 22,070, distributed as follows :

Coalville	10,230.
Hugglescote	6,980.
Whitwick	4,860.

The population is densest in the three centres of the original villages ; and a considerable portion of the Authority's district is still rural.

The subsoil is clay, with patches of gravel and sand. The surface is undulating and varied. In the North Ward is included a portion of Charnwood Forest, where the surface is much broken up by the outcrop of granitic rock.

The chief industries are coal-mining, railway wagon making, elastic web and hosiery manufacture and quarrying stone for macadam ; whilst a fair number are employed in agricultural work. The leading industry is coal-mining ; but it does not appear to have any effect upon the general health. Apart from an extra liability to accidental injuries and to Nystagmus. Of the latter, during the last 5 years, there has been an average of 8 cases ; and during the same period 17 deaths have been attributed to accidental injuries sustained in the coal mines.

The amount of Poor Law relief required is moderate ; and want of employment in the district has been well under average.

Hospital Provision.

The Leicestershire County Council provide hospital accommodation for Smallpox ; and also by means of a combined scheme for the ordinary infectious diseases. The same Authority provides hospital accommodation for Tuberculosis cases. In Coalville there is a small residential Dispensary of 8 beds for female cases.

There is no Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants or homeless children in the district.

Ambulance Facilities.

For infectious cases the combined scheme provides ambulances. For non-infectious and accident cases, the Coalville Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, for a moderate fee, provides ambulance ; also several of the collieries have their own ambulance.

Clinical and Treatment Centres.

These are provided as follows, at the places named.

Maternity & Child Welfare, Marlborough Square, County Council	
School Clinics,	"
Tuberculosis Dispensary, Bakewell Street (8 beds)	"
(female cases.)	

There are no Day Nurseries, nor Treatment Centre for Venereal diseases. The latter are provided for in Leicester, by a combination scheme between Leicestershire County Council, and the Council of Leicester City.

Public Health Staff.—The staff of the Public Health Department consists of one Sanitary Inspector, two Assistant Sanitary Inspectors, fully qualified, a Superintendent of Scavenging and a Medical Officer of Health (part time.)

Nursing.—The Coalville, Hugglescote and Whitwick Wards, each provides a nurse for non-infectious cases, by means of voluntary associations. Each association manages its own affairs, financially and otherwise. For infectious cases, if necessity arose for the employment of trained nurses, the Urban Council would provide such nursing.

Midwives.—There are six qualified midwives in practice within the district, under the supervision of the County Council.

Public Analyst.—There is no special appointment ; but various professional analysts are employed as occasion arises.

Adoptive Acts.—The following list gives the Adoptive Acts, Bye-laws and Regulations, adopted within the district, with the date of adoption.

	ADOPTED
Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890	1894
Public Health Act (A.), 1890	1894
Public Health Act, 1907. Parts II, III. Sections 52-56 and 68 of Part IV., Part V. Sections 79, 81, 85 and 86 of Part VII., Parts VIII. and IX. Section 93 and 95 of Part X.	1909
Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899, and Part III. of the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1919	1923
Private Street Act	1892
BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.	
Slaughter Houses, Common Lodging Houses, New Street and Buildings, Nuisances	1894
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	1907
Pleasure Grounds	1924

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water Supply.—The water supply of the district is obtained from a deep well, in the sandstone measures; and is pumped to a reservoir at the Forest Rock, whence it gravitates, to provide a constant supply to nearly all the populous parts of the Urban District.

Of the total of 4,443 houses, 4,209 are supplied from the public mains, compared with 3,787 in 1921. This is a large proportion of the total houses, when it is remembered, that on account of the district being extensive and in part rural, a number of the houses is outside the range of the water mains. The supply is fairly sufficient; but in view of the probable growth of the district, steps are being taken to supplement the supply. The supply is in almost all cases direct to the houses. Samples have been examined from time to time and found of a high standard of organic purity.

During the last five years, new connections have been made as follows:

1921	—	67
1922	—	119
1923	—	105
1924	—	107
1925	—	91

Rivers and Streams.—The area being at the top of the watershed, there are no rivers of any size. Two brooks, one flowing northward and one southward, ultimately receive the effluents of the two sewage farms; but by the time these reach the streams, they are in an innocuous state.

From the nature of the industries, and position of the sewage farms, there is no pollution of these streams.

Drainage and Sewerage.—The populous part of the district is efficiently sewered. There are two Sewage Farms—Kelham Bridge and the Snarrows. The former takes the drainage from the southern portion of the district, and the sewage is disposed of there, principally by broad irrigation and to some extent by intermittent downward filtration.

On the Snarrows Farm, which receives the sewage from the northern portion, the disposal is by means of tanks, filters and sludge pits, followed by irrigation over grass land.

Both farms have worked efficiently; and the effluents have been periodically examined and found satisfactory.

Water Closets.—During the last five years, considerable progress has been made in the closet accommodation in the area. As before mentioned, a portion of the district is rural, and outside the range of the water mains and main sewers ; but in the populous part, conversion of old privies into water closets has made marked progress.

In 1921 there were 1746 water closets.			
1922	„	1948	„
1923	„	2166	„
1924	„	2295	„
1925	„	2517	„

At the end of 1925, the sanitary conveniences of the district were :

Water Closets	...	...	2517
Privies with fixed receptacles			1211
Privies with movable	„		111

Scavenging.—The scavenging of the district continues to be efficiently carried out. Since 1923 the Council decided to undertake the whole of the scavenging ; and movable ashbins, in increasing numbers, have been substituted for fixed receptacles. In 1921, only 74 dust bins were in use. At the end of 1925, 1,099 were being used. This has much facilitated the efficient scavenging of the area. The refuse when it has manurial value, is disposed of upon agricultural land. The dry ash and dust-bin refuse are carted to suitable tips. The large amount of the latter, and the difficulty of obtaining suitable tips in a populous district, are making imminent the advisability of the provision of a suitable destructor.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.—During 1925, 4,571 sanitary inspections have been made: 1,886 being for general nuisances, 39 respecting water supply and 2,446 respecting ash-pit accumulations. Details of Inspector's work will be found in a summary appended to this report.

Smoke Abatement.—No special action has been taken during the last five years, with respect to smoke abatement. Only in a few cases are smoke-consuming appliances used, and the condition of the atmosphere at times, is markedly impure and irritating.

Premises and Occupations Controllable by Bye-laws, &c.

There are no under-ground sleeping rooms in the district ; and few offensive trades. Tallow-melting and tripe boiling are the only instances of the latter carried on within the area.

Slaughter Houses.—Of these there are 16 in the area ; and regular inspections have been made ; but private slaughter houses are liable from time to time, to cause re-curent nuisance--for instance on " killing " days. A public Abattoir is a marked benefit in lessening the liability to nuisance, and advantageous in the better control of the meat supply.

Bakehouses.—Regular inspection of the bakehouses has been made. With two exceptions, they are all supplied with water from the public mains. There are 16 bakehouses in the Urban District,

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.—Under the Dairies Amendment Act (1922) there are 73 retail purveyors, and 47 wholesale traders and producers now on the register. Thus far the Council has not adopted the Milk and Dairies Amendment Act (1922) and Orders thereunder for the sale of milk under special designations. During the year, 78 samples of milk have been submitted for bacteriological examination. These were classified thus :

44	good
17	fair
7	moderate
10	bad

In all cases in which the samples were below the requisite standard, special action was taken to obtain an improvement in the supply. A Veterinary Surgeon has been appointed to inspect and report on the condition of milking cows.

Common Lodging Houses.—There are two of these in the area, both in the Whitwick Ward. They are regularly inspected, and surprise and periodic visits have been made. During 1925, there were 9,346 lodgers accommodated.

Food Inspection.—The meat, fish, fruit, &c., exposed for sale have been inspected from time to time, more particularly that displayed in the weekly market, where occasionally food of an inferior kind is brought in by outsiders. During 1925, no prosecution was necessary.

Schools.—All the schools are now supplied with water from the public mains, and during the last five years, considerable progress has been made in the provision of improved sanitary conveniences.

Besides the medical inspection of the children under the Education Committee, and a school clinic supervised by their medical officers, the children of several of the schools have been examined by the Medical Officer of Health, in the event of any special incidence of infectious disease occurring at the school.

Housing.

(a) Number of new houses erected during 1925	...	66
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts:		
(1) By the Local Authority	...	0
(2) By other bodies or persons	...	57
1. Unfit Dwelling Houses.		
(1) Total number inspected for housing defects		381
(2) Number inspected under the Housing Regulations		165
(3) Number of houses found to be in a state dangerous or injurious to health, as to be unfit for human habitation	... ..	11
(4) Number (exclusive of those under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation	... ..	211
2. Remedy of Defects without service of formal notice.		
Rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or their Officers	... ..	152
3. Action under Statutory Powers.		
A Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.		
(1) Number of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	... ..	38
(2) Number of houses which were rendered fit—		
(a) By Owners	... ..	27
(b) By Local Authority	... ..	3
(3) Number of houses in respect of which closing orders become operative, in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	... ..	0
B Proceedings under Public Health Act.		
(1) Number of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	21
(2) Number of houses in which defects were remedied		
(a) By Owners	... ..	19
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	...	0
C Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925.		
(1) Number of representations made, with a view to making closing order	... ..	2
(2) Number of houses in respect of which closing orders were made	... ..	11
(3) Number of houses in respect of which closing orders were determined, the houses having been rendered fit	... ..	0
(4) Number of houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	... ..	0
(5) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Order	... ..	0

8.

During the last five years, 254 new houses have been erected.

In 1921	—	29
1922	—	83
1923	—	30
1924	—	46
1925	—	66

In the Urban area there now 4,443 houses, of which 4,093 are working-class dwellings, and 350 other buildings. This gives a house population of 4.9.

In 1901	this rate was	4.9
1911	„	4.7
1921	„	4.8
1925	„	4.9

But these figures scarcely indicate the position of housing in the district.

In 1921, there were 4,560 families or separate occupiers. In 1925 there are in all 4,443 houses. The number of families has increased by 40 to 50 : that is there are 4,600 families to 4,443 houses.

- In 1921,
- 412 families, comprising 1,191 persons in tenements of 1 or two rooms,
 - 445 families, comprising 1,709 persons in tenements of 3 rooms.
 - 3,456 families, comprising 16,248 persons in tenements of 4 or 6 rooms.
 - 237 families comprising 1,209 persons in tenements of 7 or 10 rooms.

Thus of the total then population (20,468) 17,057 persons were fairly comfortably housed ; whilst 3,411 were inadequately housed. In these circumstances, overcrowding is bound to exist, and the Authority, in the circumstances, is handicapped in taking measures for its prevention.

The bulk of the houses including all the newer houses, are of a fairly good standard, mostly 5—6 roomed, substantially constructed of brick, with adequate air space, etc. ; but many of the older houses are lacking in room accommodation, and badly arranged.

The rate of building, although considerable, is scarcely keeping pace with the necessities of the position. The urgency of house provision is therefore still pressing.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Diseases.

The following Table gives the total notifications received under age groups; also the deaths under same age groups.

NOTIFICATIONS.

Age Group under	...	1	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65	Admitted to Hospital.
	total													
Small Pox	0													
Scarlatina	81	1	1		3	6	10	37	18	4	1			23
Diphtheria	44			1		3	7	14	16	2	1			15
Enteric Fever	0													
Puerperal Fever	0													
Pneumonia	14					1	1		1	4	3	2	2	
Encephalitis Lethargica	2								1	1				

DEATHS.

Small Pox														
Scarlatina														
Diphtheria														
Enteric Fever														
Puerperal Fever														
Pneumonia						1	1		1	3	2	2	2	
Encephalitis Lethargica									1	1				

Outbreaks During 1925.

Measles.—During 1925, Measles was prevalent in the Hugglescote and Whitwick Wards, during May, June, July and August; and six deaths were attributed to this cause. This disease, often viewed as a trifling ailment has again and again added materially to the death rate.

Whooping Cough.—This disease was prevalent throughout the district, from March to June, and resulted in 10 deaths. Like Measles, it is not popularly regarded as a serious disease, and few precautions are taken to arrest its spread. These two diseases have added 16 to the number of deaths; whereas Diphtheria and Scarlatina have added none. Taking the last five years, Measles and Whooping Cough have caused 32 deaths against 4 attributed to Diphtheria or Scarlatina. Thus the non-notifiable infectious diseases have a more serious effect upon the death rate than the notifiable ones. Intimations of these diseases, through the School Attendance Officer, have been utilized in gauging the incidence of the disease, and in giving advice to secure what isolation was practicable.

Scarlatina.—During 1925, no fewer than 82 cases were notified. It has been throughout of an exceptionally mild type and no fatality has occurred. Twenty three cases were removed to hospital. One case was discovered in the "peeling" stage attending school, and according to his mother, the boy had ailed

only about a day, and, according to her statement, had neither rash nor sore throat. During the last five years, 171 cases have been notified, and not a single fatality has occurred. No use has been made of the Dick Test.

Diphtheria.—During 1925, 44 cases were notified, but no death was attributed to this cause. Most of the cases occurred at Ellistown, amongst the school children there, and were probably due to the presence in school of “carriers.” On two occasions, the throats of the school children were examined, and those with throats of a suspicious nature, were excluded from school; and throat swabs from several of these children were examined and found positive. Serum, supplied by the Urban Council, was used in most cases. No use was made of the Shick Test. I believe the “carrier” agency was the main factor in the spread of the disease.

During the last five years, 197 cases have been notified, resulting in 4 deaths.

Enteric Fever.—There has been no case of this disease in 1925. Since 1920 only ten cases have occurred, resulting in two deaths. Seven of these cases—in 1922,—were in one house; all the members with one exception being affected. The sanitary condition of the premises was imperfect, but two other families in the same yard, living under similar conditions, remained unaffected. Examination of the milk and water supply threw no light on the outbreak. Hospital isolation was declined.

Encephalitis Lethargica.—Two cases were reported during 1925; one aged 12 and one 19. Both were fatal. The spinal fluid was examined in both cases: one found positive and one inconclusive. They occurred miles apart, and no connection could be traced between them.

Influenza.—This disease was fairly prevalent during first 4 months of 1925, and resulted in 10 deaths, mostly from lung complications and heart failure. The disease was not of the severe type of 1918; but the tendency to develop pneumoniam persisted. During the last five years, 32 deaths have been caused by Influenza, and this cause has a fairly constant influence on the death rate. The age periods most affected were 15 to 25 and 25 to 45.

Disinfectants.—Formaldehyde, Lysol and Izal have been mainly used.

Tuberculosis.

This Table gives new cases of Tuberculosis and number of deaths during 1925.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
0								
1								
5							2	1
10			1	1				
15	2	3	1					1
20	3	3		1		1	1	
25	7	11			7	8		
35	1				3	4		
45	1							
55		1						
65								
Totals	14	18	2	2	10	13	3	2

During 1925, 36 new cases of Tuberculosis were notified; 32 being pulmonary and 4 non-pulmonary; and during the same period 30 deaths were attributed to this cause—23 being due to Phthisis, and 7 to non-pulmonary Tuberculosis. For the five years (1921—1925) the notifications and deaths were as follows :

	NOTIFICATIONS.		DEATHS.	
	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.
1921	15	6	11	3
1922	23	4	21	3
1923	22	6	18	3
1924	10	10	13	6
1925	32	4	23	7

During the last 5 years, locally, there has been no diminution in the number of new cases, nor in the mortality caused by Tuberculosis.

None of the new cases were connected with the milk trade. No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925. The number of cases of Tuberculosis remaining on the Register, at the end of 1925, was as follows :

Pulmonary, 47 males, 39 females, total 86.
Non-Pulmonary, 15 males, 10 females, total 25.

Thus in the Urban District at the end of 1925, 111 persons were affected with Tuberculosis.

Public Health Act, 1925—Section 62.

No action was taken under this Section. (Compulsory removal to hospital.)

I now append some amplification of statistics.

Infantile Mortality.—During 1925, 51 deaths occurred amongst infants under one year. This gives a rate of 106 per 1,000 births registered, as compared with a rate of 76 for 1924. This increase is accounted for by 8 deaths from Whooping Cough, 2 from Measles, and 18 from Premature Birth, Marasmus and Debility. The details are :

Pneumonia	...	...	5
Bronchitis	...	...	5
Premature Birth	...	...	10
Debility and Marasmus			8
Gastro-entestinal Ailments			4
Whooping Cough	...	...	8
Measles	...	...	2
Congenital Defects	...	...	4
Convulsions	...	...	4
Accidental Suffocation			1

The following Table gives the Infantile rate, the general death rate and the birth rate for the last five years.

	Infantile Rate.	General Death Rate.	Birth Rate.
1921	114	11.1	26
1922	73	10.2	25.8
1923	71	11.1	22.2
1924	76	11	22.9
1925	106	12	21.7

For corparison I gives these rates for England and Wales for the year 1925.

Infantile Rate	75
General Death Rate	12.2
Birth Rate	18.3

The following Table gives the general mortality in each Ward, classified according to diseases.

DISEASE.	Coalville.	Huggles- cote	Whitwick	Whole District
Population	10230	6980	4860	22070
Measles	0	3	3	6
Pernicious Anamia	1	0	0	1
Whooping Cough	2	5	3	10
Influenza	3	6	1	10
Encephalitis Lethargica	0	1	1	2
Gastro-enteritis	7	0	0	7
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	7	2	3	12
Rheumatic Fever	0	2	0	2
Erysipilas	0	2	0	2
Gastric Ulcer	1	1	0	2
Phthisis	5	13	5	23
Other Tubercular Disease	4	1	2	7
Bronchitis	7	8	4	19
Pneumonia	8	5	4	17
Heart Disease	11	12	6	29
Diabetes	0	0	1	1
Cancer	12	11	3	26
Appendicitis	2	1	0	3
Congenital Debility, Malformation, } Premature Birth	10	7	4	21
Nephritis	1	1	2	4
Parturition	1	0	0	1
Senile Decay	12	4	5	21
Injuries	3	2	2	7
Suicides	0	1	1	2
Other Defined Diseases	8	15	7	30
Ill Defined	1	0	0	1
Totals	106	103	57	266

From the fore-going Table it will be seen that

- (1) There are no deaths from Diphtheria, Scarlatina or Enteric Fever ; but 10 from Whooping Cough as compared with 1 for 1924.
- (2) There were 25 from heart disease, as compared with 23 for the previous year.
- (3) Thirty persons died from Tuberculosis, as compared with 19 for 1924 ; 23 were due to pulmonary disease, and 7 to non-pulmonary.
- (4) There were 36 deaths due to diseases of the respiratory organs as compared with 49 for the previous year : 19 being due to Bronchitis and 17 to Pneumonia.

- (5) Cancer caused 26 deaths as compared with 23 for 1924. The age periods were those usually affected 45—65 and 65 upwards.
- (6) Gastro-intestinal ailments and Ulcer of Stomach caused 9 deaths as compared with 7 for the previous year.
- (7) Influenza caused 10 deaths as compared with 8 for 1924.
- (8) Accidental injuries caused 7 deaths—the same as in 1924. There were 2 suicides, as compared with 3 for the previous year.

Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.

The Factories and Workshops, &c. have been regularly inspected, and some improvements effected in the better provision of sanitary conveniences. The requirements as to cleansing and lime-washing, have been complied with.

Outworkers.—There are 41 names on the Register of Out-workers; and on the whole, the out-work is carried on in fairly satisfactory sanitary conditions.

All work given out, which has been found to have any contact with infectious disease, is at once removed and thoroughly disinfected.

Table (Form 527) is appended to this Report.

Finally, taking the sanitary condition generally of the district, it is satisfactory to be able to report steady progress during the last five years, in the direction of house provision—over 250 having been erected,—in the improved system of scavenging, including the more general use of dustbins, in the gradual conversion of ash-pit privies into water closets, in the steady increase in the proportion of houses, connected with the public water supply, in the extension of sewers, and further in the widening interest of the people generally in matters pertaining to health.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R. WYATT JAMIE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Coalville,

March 25th, 1926.

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

1.-Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspector of Nuisances.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Prosecution (4)
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	9		
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	126	13	
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises)			
Total	135	13	

2-Defects Found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosec- utions (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H. M. Inspector (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—</i>				
Want of cleanliness	16	16	(including	13 Verbal
Want of Ventilation	3	3		
Overcrowding	1	1		
Want of drainage of floors ...				
Other nuisance	2	2		
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient unsuitable or defective not separate for sexes	4	4		
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts:—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s.101)				
Other offences				
(Excluding offences relating to out work and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedules to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers Order, 1921.)				
Total	26	26		

Including those specified in section 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES, SECTION 108.

Nature of Work. (1)	Instances. (2)	Notices served. (3)	Prosecutions. (4)
Wearing Apparel—			
Making, &c.	1	1	
Cleaning and Washing			
Total	1	1	

R. W. JAMIE, Medical Officer of Health.

25th March, 1926.

Summary of Inspector's Work for Year, 1925.

Houses erected	...	...	...	66
Water-closets erected (new exclusive of conversions)	...	...	...	89
Compliants received during the year	...	...	...	30
Houses and Premises Inspected and Re-inspected—				
Re Ashpit Accumulation	...	...	2446	
Re Water Supply	...	...	39	
Re General Nuisances	...	...	1886	4371
Notices served to secure Abatement of Nuisances—				
Informal	...	...	241	
Statutory	...	...	85	326
Houses Disinfected—				
After Infectious Diseases	...	...	115	
After Tuberculosis	...	...	30	
After Cancer and other diseases	...	...	12	157
Schools Disinfected	...	...	...	10
Bedding, &c., Destroyed	...	...	...	5 lots.
Loads of Nightsoil removed	...	...	4360	
Other Refuge	...	...	7857	12217
Drains repaired, renewed and re-laid	...	...	...	98
Privy, Ashpit, Cesspool, &c. Nuisance abated	...	...	...	132
Houses to which Town Water has been newly supplied				91
W.C's substituted for Privies, &c., 133 for 117 privies, and 5 pails.				
Roofs, Spouts, &c., repaired	...	...	...	72
Houses Cleaned and Limewashed	...	...	...	7
Insanitary Areas (caused by Vans) dealt with	...	...	...	5
Piggery Nuisances, &c., abated	...	...	...	11
Overcrowding cases abated	...	...	...	9
Dangerous Buildings and Structures dealt with	...	...	...	1
Certificates granted under Rent, &c. (Restrictions) Act				Nil
Houses dealt with " " " " " "				Nil
Housing Act, 1925 and P.H.A. 1875.				
Dwelling-houses inspected and Re-inspected	...	...	...	381
Dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	11
Representations re making of closing orders	...	...	...	2
Closing orders made	...	...	...	11
Dwelling-houses dealt with without the making of Closing orders	...	...	...	201
Dwelling-houses which after the making of Closing orders put into a fit state	...	...	...	Nil.
New Dustbins provided	...	...	...	250
Nightsoil Carting Nuisances dealt with	...	...	...	1
Reports to Medical Officer re Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	128
Sanitary Reports to Committees	...	...	...	12
Sanitary Reports to Council	...	...	...	8
Reports under the Housing and Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909	...	...	...	11
School Notifications re Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	238
Unclassified Nuisances dealt with	...	...	...	103

Common Lodging Houses.

I have again to report that both the Common Lodging-houses at Whitwick have been satisfactorily maintained.

The number of lodgers accommodated during the year was 9,346. Previous numbers were 10,389 for 1924, 9,009 for 1923, 8,808 for 1922, and 7,424 for 1921.

There has been no Infectious Disease during the year. The houses are regularly inspected, by periodical visits, and also by surprise visits.

Scavenging.

During the year 7,800 loads of midden refuse and rubbish were removed and 4,417 loads of dustbin refuse.

The refuse, where it has any manurial value, is disposed of upon agricultural land.

The dry ash and dustbin refuse generally is carted to suitable tips.

Infectious Diseases.

There have been 157 fumigations of houses or parts of houses during the year; 10 schools have been disinfected.

Water Supply.

91 more houses have been connected up to the Council's supply during the present year, making the total number of houses supplied 4,209. The half-yearly analysis of the town water show it to be of its usual excellent quality. The amount of water pumped during 1925 was 118,640,825 gallons, an increase of 5,982,115 gallons on 1924.

House Drainage.

98 properties have been re-drained and 133 water closets provided to take place of previous privies. New constructional work has accounted for the provision of 89 further water closets.

Slaughter Houses.

The slaughter houses have been regularly inspected, and with the exception of a few cases of neglect to cleanse and lime-wash, have kept in a satisfactory manner. The total number in your area is now 16.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order, 1885—1889.

179 Inspections have been made under the above Orders during 1925. In some of the premises visited appreciable improvements are being carried out as the result of representations from this office, and it is hoped that in time all these premises will have been brought to a condition more conformable to more modern requirements and to the production of cleaner milk.

One disappointing feature is that in no case in the Urban District has advantage been taken of the provisions of the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, and Orders made thereunder, for the sale of milk under special designations.

Under the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, there are 73 Retail Purveyors and 47 Wholesale Traders and Producers registered.

762 Inspections of Animals have been made by your Veterinary Inspector.

Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.

The Workshops, Bakehouses, etc., have been kept under the usual supervision, and the requirements as to cleansing and limewashing have been complied with.

The position with regard to Outworkers remains as before. They are not numerous considering the circumstances and the amount of hosiery trade carried on in the District, and all work given out which has been found to have the slightest contact with infectious disease is at once removed and thoroughly disinfected by your officials.

The number of out-workers at present on the Register is 41.